

House Resolution 38 - Introduced

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1 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. ____
1 2 BY CLUTE
1 3 A Resolution declaring May 2007 Amyotrophic Lateral
1 4 Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month.
1 5 WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, is
1 6 better known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and
1 7 WHEREAS, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease
1 8 characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the
1 9 lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior
1 10 horns of the spinal cord; and
1 11 WHEREAS, the initial symptom of ALS is weakness of
1 12 the skeletal muscles, especially those of the
1 13 extremities; and
1 14 WHEREAS, as ALS progresses, the patient experiences
1 15 difficulty in swallowing, talking, and breathing; and
1 16 WHEREAS, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy
1 17 and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and
1 18 WHEREAS, ALS does not affect a patient's mental
1 19 capacity, so that the patient remains alert and aware
1 20 of his or her loss of motor functions and the
1 21 inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and
1 22 death; and
1 23 WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS
1 24 only survive two to five years from the time of
1 25 diagnosis; and
1 26 WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans
1 27 are at a 50 percent greater risk of developing ALS
1 28 than those who have not served in the military; and
1 29 WHEREAS, ALS has no known cause, means of
1 30 prevention, or cure; and
2 1 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness
2 2 Month increases the public's awareness of ALS
2 3 patients' circumstances and acknowledges the terrible
2 4 impact this disease has not only on the patient but on
2 5 the patient's family and the community and recognizes
2 6 the research being done to eradicate this horrible
2 7 disease; NOW THEREFORE,
2 8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
2 9 That the House of Representatives proclaims May 2007
2 10 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month in
2 11 Iowa.
2 12 LSB 2852HH 82
2 13 jr:nh/je/5